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could with advantage have been reduced one half by the exclusion of much matter of highly excursive character and the exercise of restraint in the reprinting of documents and extracts.

GEORGE E. BARNETT.

Johns Hopkins University.

Seasonal Trades. By Various Writers. With an Introduction by SIDNEY WEBB. Edited by SIDNEY WEBB and ARNOLD FREEMAN. (London: Constable and Company. 1912. Pp. 410. 7s. 6d.)

The seasonal trades "seem never to have been made the subject of detailed study." In the United Kingdom of today, according to Mr. Webb, there is no seasonal slackness in the community as a whole. "Stating it definitely, I venture to say that if we could get accurate statistics of the total number of wage-earners actually in employment in the United Kingdom this week we should find it to be very nearly identical with the total number for any other week of the present year."

The papers (we are not told the basis of choice) discuss the waiter, the cycle and gas industries, the tailoring, millinery, skin and fur, boot and shoe, and building trades. The object is to supply a background for understanding the seasonal characteristics of the trade. In some papers this is admirably done, the history, the description of process, or the outline of organization, aiming straight at the mark. Especially is this true in the papers on the waiter and the building trades, while in other papers the preliminary descriptive section goes wide of the mark, as in the paper on the gas industry. In most of the papers the extent to which personal enquiry has extended is not stated, but the printed sources are carefully given at the end of each paper.

On the whole the collection may be considered the starting point for fuller study of each trade. But "every trade has got to be studied by itself" and it will be necessary to secure the actual records of employment from payrolls before any theory of dovetailing occupations can be proved, before the practicability of any funds of labor can be accepted, and certainly before any plans can be scheduled.

The introduction, presenting the treatment of seasonal problems by economists together with an analysis of the data set forth in the papers, is of especial value. In it a goodly number of schemes to adjust "work to the workers" and "workers to the

work" are ably discussed. A plan, not sufficiently considered, seems to be the regulation of industry and of commerce whereby the state law may follow the example of trade unions in certain sections of the cycle trade, and require each trade to be so organized that it not only may fit the manufacture of various types of products into the various seasons, but also may improve conditions by securing "retention of workers during slack periods by short time," by working of stock, by reduction of overtime, and even by compulsion of time agreements for definite length seasons.

This volume is the outcome of a seminar at the London School of Economics and Political Science during the session of 1910, and is satisfactory evidence of the value of "students' work."

SUSAN M. KINGSBURY.

Simmons College.

English Apprenticeship and Child Labour. A History. By JOCELYN DUNLOP and R. D. DENMAN. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1912. Pp. 390. \$3.00.)

The Child in the City. Edited by SOPHONISBA P. BRECKINRIDGE. (Chicago: Publications of the Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy. 1912. Pp. xiii, 502. \$1.50.)

The Wage-earning Boy. By CLARENCE C. ROBINSON. (New York: Association Press. 1912. Pp. 108. \$.25.)

The first of these books is printed as one of joint authorship, but the entire volume, except the concluding chapter, is the work of Mr. Dunlop. It is the story, in its more important aspects, of juvenile labor in England from mediaeval times to the twentieth century; it points out the causes for the rise and decline of apprenticeship, analyzes the modern problem of child labor, and suggests certain remedies for its attendant evils.

Contrary to common opinion, the regular employment of children did not begin in the eighteenth century with the rise of modern industrialism. It was a product of capitalism and other causes which long preceded the factory system. "In Mediaeval England children were employed as freely and at as early an age as ever they have been under the factory system." During the handicraft period, juvenile service formed an important factor in industry, but it was utilized chiefly to train the youth for his life work. Child labor was an educative process; as a labor supply it was incidental. Under the factory system juvenile service was desired as an object in itself. The work was un-